

REMARKS/AMENDMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-18 will be pending in the application. Claims 4, 13 and 19 have been canceled. Claims 1, 5, 6, 10 and 14 have been amended. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 4-6 and 13-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The specification has been objected to because of certain informalities. In response to this objection, the second full paragraph on page 2, beginning at line 8, has been rewritten to recite "necessary must" as suggested in the Office Action. In addition, the Applicants have amended the title to recite "Method And Apparatus For Eliminating Unwanted Mirror Support Images From Photographic Images". The Applicants submit that the new title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

In Section 3 of the Detail Action portion of the Office Action, claim 5 has been objected to due to an informality in the wording of the claim. This objection has been addressed through the editorial amendment of claim 5.

Claims 1-3, 7-8, 10-12 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Komiya et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,744,931 ("Komiya '931"). Claims 9 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya '931. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya '931 in view of Ishiguro et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,157,018 ("Ishiguro '018"). These rejections are moot in view of the claim amendments.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the features of original dependent claim 4. Dependent claim 4 has been canceled.

Claim 6 has been amended to include the elements of original claim 1.

Independent claim 10 has been amended to recite the features of original dependent claim 13. Dependent claims 13 and 19 have canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4, which as indicated in the Office Action, would be allowable if combined with the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art of record. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1, which as indicated by the Office Action, would be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants submit that new independent claim 6 is patentable over the cited art of record. Independent claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 13, which as indicated by the Office Action, would be allowable if combined with the limitations of claim 10. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 10, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art of record. Claim 19 has been canceled. All claims in the application are believed to be in allowable form. Allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Lara A. Northrop
Reg. No. 55,502
Pietragallo, Bosick & Gordon
One Oxford Centre, 38th Floor
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Telephone: 412-263-4362